

The Bloomfield Record.

Scientific and Practical.

USES FOR RATS.—A writer in the Military Dictionary says that rats are sometimes used in military operations to set fire to gunpowder. On those occasions a lighted match is tied to the tail of the animal. Rats are eaten not only by the Chinese, who esteem them a dainty, but by the chifferons of Paris, and by gipsies, who eat only those caught around barns—they being less strong than others. During the French-German war a great number of persons acquired, perforce, a relish for these animals. A writer describes a practice seen in Italy of dipping a number of rats in turpentine, setting them on fire, and rushing down a flight of steps amid the shouts of the degraded populace of Rome.

ABOUT EELS.—There are some eight or ten varieties of eels, some of which never fresh water. Some of them are ten or twelve feet long, weighing one hundred pounds. The common fresh and salt water eel is from twelve to twenty-four inches in length. Eels have been proven to be hermaphrodite, and spawn like other fish. It is said that they possess by the peculiar formation of their gills to retain water there in sufficient to allow them to travel on land for a short distance. The heart, which is situated in the tail, like that of the salmon, pulsates about ninety-four times per minute.

NATURAL TORPEDOS.—Several years since a spontaneous explosion took place in the quarry near Nicholsonville, Ky. The Lexington Gazette says that recently these explosions have begun again, two very violent ones having occurred, rending the rock in all directions and throwing up a vast amount of debris. The people of the neighborhood are very much excited in reference to these unaccountable proceedings. The explosions are described as so violent that, if one should occur under a house, it would hoist it and its contents like a veritable torpedo.

WIS TALK.—A curious Frenchman has lately been making a calculation, which is that a man talks on an average three hours a day at the rate about twenty-nine octavo pages an hour. This would make eighty-seven pages a day, about six hundred a week, which would amount to fifty-two good sized volumes every year! And then, multiplying this by the number of years in a man's life, what a library he would have! It should all be printed! And, he says, very little of the whole would be worth preserving, and of how much he would be glad if it had been left unsaid.

ARTIFICIAL EROSY.—This material is made of sawdust mixed with other substances and powerfully compressed in molds. The following is the process of manufacture, as now largely carried on by Messrs. Latry & Co., of Paris: The sawdust, reduced to a fine powder, is mingled with a suitable quantity of water and blood, and at about 112° the albumen of the blood is thus agglomerated with the powder. The compound is then packed in heated molds, into the crevices of which it is forced by strong hydraulic pressure.

INFLUENCE OF THE MOON.—Professor Purser believes that the moon, in revolving around the earth and drawing the tides behind her, causes the latter to act as a brake on the revolution of the globe, and he considers that it may be mathematically shown that this action is slowly but surely checking the earth's speed of rotation, so that the days and nights are gradually lengthening. In a thousand million years or so, they may become each a month long.

ANTISCORBUIC.—General Sherman says that the *agave americana*, or Spanish bayonet, the fruit of the common prickly pear, and the succulent leaves of some of the varieties of the cactus that abounds on the deserts of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona, furnish excellent specifics for that horrible disease, the scurvy.

WHICH?—A person who represented that he was a clergyman, presented himself at the office of a prominent real estate firm in Boston one day this week, and asked if the firm would give him a list of all the farms offered for sale and owned by the city. The query naturally arose whether he wanted to buy a widow or marry a farm.

It would appear as if some New Yorkers were making fools of themselves in the solemn matter of funerals. Doubtless some among us recollect the funeral ceremonies of a young man at the residence of his parents on Fifth Avenue a few years ago, when \$25,000 worth of floral decorations were used. A *prima donna* sang, and a well-known professional officiated at the organ. That memorable funeral, however, has been eclipsed by one that occurred in town not long since. The deceased had been companion in a certain kind of society and was a very lovely girl. The coffin was placed on a platform in the parlor, draped with black velvet and jet. The flowers exhibited cost nearly \$3,000, and a chorus was sung by hired vocalists. On either side of the coffin stood four young girls dressed in white, each holding a wreath of flowers. While the minister prayed a bell was tolled in the hall-way, and a chant was indulged in by the hired vocalists.—*N. Y. Mail.*

ST. NICHOLAS FOR DECEMBER.—opens a with handsomely illustrated article on the celebrated "Garden of the Gods" in Colorado. Among the other instructive articles are "The Boy Astronomer," by Hezekiah Butterworth; "The Check-adees," by Harvey Wilder; "African Fashions," by Olive Thorne; "Astor and William Tell," by Emma D. Southwick; and "Holiday Harbor," an excellent article by Mrs. S. B. C. Semuels, showing the boys and girls how to be a city, with all the public buildings, steamboats, railroad trains, etc., necessary for its prosperity.

The stories in the number are, many of them, remarkably good. The wonderful adventures of "Tchumpkin" are concluded; Mary N. Prescott writes charmingly about "Prue's Devils"; there is a bright, fanciful story by B. E. Woolf, called "Mabel's Troubles," and a characteristic tale translated from the Swedish, by Selma Borg and Marie A. Brown. Helen C. Weeks tells about "Fortunate Monkey," and all the boys will be glad to read "The Comanches' Trail," by Samuel W. Cozens. A poem, which is excellent in itself, is illustrated by twelve dogs' heads drawn from life with great spirit and fidelity by A. H. Thayer. Among the other poems are "Little Whimpy," by Mrs. Dodge; "The Jeweled Tree," by A. M. Mecher; and "Friends," by L. G. Warner. Mrs. Abby Morton Diaz has one of her funny sketches called "A Little Girl's Story." Very interesting announcements are made for the January issue of ST. NICHOLAS, which will be the Holiday number, and will contain, besides ever so many Christmas stories, the opening chapters of the new serials: "The Young Surveyor," by J. T. Trowbridge, and "Eight Cousins," by Louisa M. Alcott.

The Boy Astronomer.

The first transit of Venus ever seen by a human eye was predicted by a boy, and was observed by that boy just as he reached the age of manhood. His name was Jeremiah Horrocks. We have a somewhat wonderful story to tell you about this boy.

He lived in an obscure village near Liverpool, England. He was a lover of books of science, and before he reached the age of eighteen he had mastered the astronomical knowledge of the day. He studied the problems of Kepler, and he made the discovery that the tables of Kepler indicated the near approach of the period of the transit of Venus across the sun's center. This was about the year 1635.

Often on midsummer nights the boy Horrocks might have been seen in the fields watching the planet Venus. The desire sprang up within him to see the transit of the beautiful planet across the disc of the sun, for it was a sight that no eye had ever seen, and one that would tend to solve some of the greatest problems ever presented to the mind of an astronomer. So the boy began to examine the astronomical tables of Kepler, and by their aid endeavored to demonstrate at what time the next transit would occur. He found an error in the tables, and then he began, the first of all astronomers, to make the precise calculation, discovering the exact date when the next transit would take place.

He told his secret to one intimate friend, a boy who, like himself, loved science. The young astronomer then awaited the event which he had predicted for a number of years, never seeing the level planet in the sky, and never dreaming of the day when the transit should fulfill the beautiful vision he carried continually in his mind.

The memorable year came at last—1639. The predicted day of the transit came, too, at the end of the year. It was Sunday. It found Horrocks, the boy astronomer, now just past twenty years of age, intently watching a sheet of paper in a private room, on which lay the sun's reflected image. Over this reflection of the sun's disc on the paper he expected, imminent by moment, to see the planet pass like a moving spot or a shadow.

Suddenly, the church-bells rang. He was a very religious youth, and was accustomed to heed the church-bells as a call from Heaven. The paper still was spotless; a shadow broke the outer edge of the sun's luminous circle.

Still the church-bells rang. Should he go? A cloud might hide the sun before his return, and the expected disclosure be lost for a century.

But Horrocks said to himself: "I must not neglect the worship of the Creator, to see the wonderful things the Creator has made."

So he left the reflected image of the sun on the paper, and went to the sanctuary. When he returned from the service, he hurried to the room. The sun was still shining, and there, like a shadow on the bright circle on the paper, was the image of the planet Venus! It crept slowly along the bright center, like the finger of the Invisible. Then the boy astronomer knew that the great problems of astronomy were correct, and the thought filled his pure heart with religious joy.

Horrocks died at the age of twenty-two. Nearly one hundred and thirty years afterward, Venus was again seen crossing the sun. The whole astronomical world was then interested in the event, and expectations of observation were fitted out by the principal European Governments. It was observed in this country by David Rittenhouse, who faintly when he saw the vision—*Hezekiah Butterworth, in St. Nicholas for December.*

—To make a fashionable hat for your wife or daughter, take an old straw hat that you have laid aside, turn up the brim on one side, lay it down on either, cover the turned-up side with feathers and the straight brim with a rosette and streamer on it, when it is ready for use.

TEX THUNDERBOLTS.—There are more than ten thousand people in the United States who expect to be the happy possessors of the first grand prize in the Kentucky Gift Concert of \$250,000. All of them but one will be disappointed. One will get it, for Governor Bramlette, the manager at Louisville, has announced that the Concert will positively take place on November 30, 1874; there will be no further postponement, and if our readers want to know more about it, write to him.

MARTIN BROTHERS,

Wish to give notice to the residents of Bloomfield and vicinity, that they have recently added to their stock of

GROCERIES, PROVISIONS,

FLOUR, FEED & GRAIN,

FINE TOILET SOAPS,

MARTIN BROS.,

Corner Bloomfield Ave. and Broad St.,

Goods delivered free of charge.

WILLIAM COLFAX,

DEALER IN

DRY GOODS, GROCERIES,

Grain, Feed, &c.

A FINE ASSORTMENT of all goods in any line which will be sold low and promptly delivered in any part of the town.

Cor. BROAD ST. and BELLEVILLE AVE., Bloomfield N. J.

JAMES H. WAY,

DEALER IN

FINE GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS,

FLOUR, FEED, GRAIN, CANNED AND

RAILROAD AVENUE, BLOOMFIELD,

Goods delivered throughout Bloomfield and vicinity.

J. H. COLFAX,

Having removed to

Cor. ORANGE STREET and BLOOMFIELD AVENUE,

Has a fine assortment of

GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, TEAS,

COFFEES, SPICES, &c.

COUNTRY PRODUCE A SPECIALTY.

Advertisements.

MONTCLAIR RAILWAY TIME TABLE.

November 1874.

LEAVE MONTCLAIR for New York and intermediate stations at 6:04, 7:57 and 8:58, A. M.; 2:41, 3:50 and 5:28, P. M.

LEAVE BLOOMFIELD for New York at 6:10, 7:42, and 8:50, A. M.; 2:47, 4:00 and 5:34, P. M.

LEAVE NEW YORK for Bloomfield, Montclair and other stations at 12:09, 1:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30 and 6:30, P. M.

S. B.—The train due at New York at 8:30, A. M. runs independently of the New Jersey Midland.

Monthly commutation tickets may be obtained at 111 Liberty Street, N. Y., at one-sixth (1/6) of the six months rates.

G. W. N. CUSTIS, Supt.

W. H. WELD, Gen. Pass. Agt.

THE MONTCLAIR LIBRARY.

(ON FULLERTON AVENUE, NEAR BLOOMFIELD AVE.) is open daily from 3 to 6 P. M.

YEARLY do. \$3 00

6 MONTHS do. 2 00

3 MONTHS do. 1 00

Magazines and New Books purchased every month.

Residents of Bloomfield and Montclair are cordially invited to visit the Rooms and to become subscribers.

MISS MICHIE & MRS. KNEVITT'S

English and French Day School,

For Young Ladies and Little Girls,

2 WASHINGTON AVE., BLOOMFIELD, N. J.

MISS CLARA EVELAND'S

Select School, For Little Folks,

On the Corner of Linden Avenue and Thomas Street.

TERMS MODERATE.

MISS L. L. RIDDULPH'S

School for Boys and Girls,

Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, N. J.

A Fine Assortment of

Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods

May always be found at

MARTIN ZAHNLE'S

SHAVING AND HAIR DRESSING SALOON,

Bloomfield Centre, Adjoining Archdeacon's Hotel.

Celebrated Cucumber Wood

Pumps.

These Pumps are made in the most substantial manner from the best wood, and for cheapness and durability are superior to any Wood Pump Manufactured in this or any other country.

Put in wells and cisterns and warranted to give satisfaction by

HAYES AND TAYLOR,

FURNISHERS AND GASFITTERS, BLOOMFIELD, N. J.

EDWARD WILDE at the

OLD FAMILY STORE

BLOOMFIELD CENTER

Offers for sale a large and choice assortment of

Groceries, Provisions, Dry Goods, Crock-

ery and Stone Ware, Oil Cloths,

Shades and Fixtures,

Which will be sold at prices to suit the times.

FLORAL

GREENHOUSES

ADJOINING "ARCHDEACON'S HOTEL,"

BLOOMFIELD, N. J.

Orders will receive prompt attention, and plants will be delivered free of charge to any part of the town.

Bloomfield, Jan. 28, '75.

JOHN G. KEYLER,

BLOOMFIELD AVENUE,

Bloomfield, N. J.

GENERAL

FURNISHING UNDERTAKER

AND DEALER IN

FURNITURE of Every Description.

Coffins of Rosewood, Mahogany, Walnut, Imitation Rosewood, and Metallic Caskets on hand. White and Black Cloth Covered Coffins. Everything pertaining to the business.

PARLOR AND CHAMBER SUITS,

BUREAUS, BEDSTEADS,

SOFAS, LOUNGES, WHAT-NOTS,

BOOK SHELVES AND CASES,

BRACKETS, LOOKING GLASSES

etc., etc. Mattresses and Spring Beds always on hand. Undertaking and REPAIRING done with neatness.

ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

C. L. WARD & SON,

PRACTICAL

Wheelwrights, Blacksmiths and Horse Shoers.

Carriages built, painted and trimmed to order. The most approved styles. Jobbing promptly attended to. Horses shod on

Brady's Improved System,

which embraces new and correct principles.

Diseased feet of horses a specialty.

BLOOMFIELD AVENUE, BLOOMFIELD, N. J.

JAMES BERRY,

WASHINGTON AVE., BLOOMFIELD, N. J.

Furniture and Pianos MOVED WITH CARE. Also General TRUCKING and other TEAM WORK.

ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

J. BATZLE'S

BOOT AND SHOE STORE.

Bloomfield Avenue, near Race St.,

Bloomfield, N. J.

Has constantly on hand a choice variety of Ready-made Boots and Shoes of his own manufacture, at prices as low as can be found elsewhere.

Custom Work a Specialty.

Repairing neatly done.

Legal Advertisements.

UNPAID TAXES OF BLOOMFIELD

for the year 1873.

NOTICE.—Whereas, the following mentioned taxes were assessed for the year 1873, against the following persons and upon the following described lands and real estate, situated in the township of Bloomfield, in the county of Essex, and State of New Jersey, and whereas, the said taxes remained unpaid on the twentieth day of October, A. D. 1873, and remain unpaid to date, I, the undersigned Collector of Taxes for said township, do hereby give notice that, unless the said taxes, together with interest thereon, and all costs and fees, shall be paid to me at my office, over Madison's Market, on or before the sixth day of December, next ensuing, between the hours of two and five o'clock in the afternoon of that day, at Archdeacon's Hotel, in said township, to make sale of the several parcels of the said lands and real estate, according to the provisions of the supplement to an act to authorize the sale of Real Estate for the payment of taxes, approved March 17, 1869, which supplement was approved March 26, 1873, for the sale of real estate of any person or persons residing in this State or of any corporation of this State for unpaid taxes, in the same manner as in and to the said supplement, in and to this State or foreign corporations located outside of the county in which the land is located is required for taxes.

David Roach, 1 lot.....\$21.14

17 Mrs. Schmitt Baldwin, 1 lot.....10.70

18 Mrs. Ann Robinson, 1 lot.....10.70

19 Alonzo M. Crane, lot 10 of Bloomsburg, 1 lot.....2.50

20 Miss L. Crane, lot 10 of Bloomsburg, 1 lot.....2.50

21 William Clark, lot 10 of Bloomsburg, 1 lot.....2.50

22 John H. Cockerill, lot 10 of Bloomsburg, 1 lot.....2.50

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